GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5753
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2001
REPLACEMENT OF VIJAYANTA TANKS
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Vijayanta Tanks have either been laid off or scrapped;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, separately;

(c) whether the Government have taken any measures to replace the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount involved in replacement;

(e) whether such replacement includes import of tanks from abroad; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the name of the country alongwith terms and conditions laid down for such import?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Vijayanta Tanks were inducted in the Army from 1966 onwards and a total of 2141 Vijayanta Tanks were in service. The Vijayanta Tanks have outlived their expected life and are in the process of being phased out.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The Vijayanta Tanks are to be phased out by the end of the 10th Army plan i.e. by 2007. These are being replaced by indigenously produced T-72 Tanks and procurement of T-90S Tanks ex-import. Financial implication would be known only after the full replacement is completed.

(e) & (f): Yes, Sir. A contract has been signed recently with M/s. `Rosovoorouzhenie`, Russia for the import of 124 Fully Formed T-90S Tanks and 186 Tanks in Completely Knocked Down (CKD)/Semi Knocked Down (SKD) condition alongwith Transfer of Technology for indigenous manufacture in India.